

# ROCK CHIPPERS



The Bulletin of the Woodland Hills  
Rock Chippers, Inc.

Volume 63 Number 6  
June 2022

## Club Calendar

### June 4th

Business Meeting  
On Zoom  
7 PM

### June 11th

Class  
Thalia's House  
10 AM

### June 18th

Society Meeting  
At Church  
6:30 PM Social  
7 PM General  
Meeting  
Program will be a  
presentation on  
tumbling by  
Debbie and Thalia

Guests welcome!

## *From the President....*

**Hello Fellow Rock Chippers,**

We are not able to feature remarks from our President this month, as he is in the process of moving, and dealing with the purchase of a new home.

I remind everyone to please submit any ideas that may be related to the bettering of our beloved club.

The next business meeting will take place 7pm on June 4th via zoom.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in person at 6:30pm June 18 for a presentation on tumbling.  
Editor

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## Membership Information

For any questions regarding membership in the Woodland Hills Rock Chippers please email Virginia Rotramel at [whrc@rockchippers.org](mailto:whrc@rockchippers.org)

## Future Rockhounds of America

For any questions regarding membership in the FRA please email Thalia Goldsworthy at [whrc@rockchippers.org](mailto:whrc@rockchippers.org)

Regular club meetings are held at 7:00PM on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at:  
First United Methodist Church, 22700 Sherman Way, West Hills, CA 91303

Visit our website [www.rockchippers.org](http://www.rockchippers.org)  
WHRC Editor: P.O. Box 205 Woodland Hills, CA 91365

## SOCIETY MEETING PROGRAM

Program for June 18th

Tumbling: Presentation by Debbie and Thalia

### CLASSES

Our May class was a successful one for all attendees. Their completed bracelets are in the photo on the left. An additional project using left-over materials inspired Shanna to create a pendant using the same pattern.

Our next class will be on June 11, 10AM at Thalia's. The project is a sun catcher. We will be using medium size transparent chips, 18ga and 26ga round wires. Tools needed are the usual wire wrapping pliers and cutter. This project may not be finished in this class. If not, we will continue in July. **Class fee is \$5.00.** The sun catcher is a design from Kathy Nelson, a former WHRC member.



### DEBURRING A HOLE

When you drill a hole, there's always a burr produced on the underside of the metal. We all have our ways of removing them - typically by filing or sanding the area smooth. But doing it this way will put scratches on your piece that will have to be polished off.

A quick way to remove the burr is to grab a drill that's two or three times larger than your hole. Simply twist it in the hole to cut off the burr. I usually do this twisting by hand, but if you have many holes to do, it's easier on your fingers to put the drill into a holder like a pin vice.



### CLEANING STEEL SHOT

Steel shot in a vibratory or rotary tumbler works great to burnish and shine your finished silver pieces. But a common problem is how keep the shot clean. Carbon steel shot can get rusty if exposed to the air, and even stainless steel shot can sometimes develop a blackish coating that's hard to remove.

My solution of choice to clean the shot is Classic Coke. Just pour an ounce or two over the shot and let the tumbler run for an hour or so. A bad case might require a second cleaning. Some folks like to let the bubbles in the Coke dissipate before using it so that gas pressure doesn't build up in the tumbler barrel. I've heard that it's the phosphoric acid in Coke that does the trick.

While you're waiting for the shot to clean up, just settle back and enjoy the rest of the Coke.

Amazon at <http://amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith>

## The June birthstones are pearl, alexandrite and moonstone.

Pearls are organic gems that grow inside the tissue of a living saltwater or freshwater mollusk (either an oyster or a mussel). Natural pearls form when the mollusk secretes a substance called nacre around an irritant such as a piece of sand or a parasite that has invaded its shell. Cultured pearls are a product of human intervention. Technicians implant a piece of mantle tissue alone (common for freshwater cultured pearls) or with a mother-of-pearl shell bead (all saltwater) into a host mollusk. The mollusk covers the irritant with nacre, just like a natural pearl. Cultured pearls are raised in pearl farms – saltwater or freshwater operations where the mollusks are cleaned, protected from predators and eventually harvested. Thousands of years of pearl fishing have decimated the natural pearl beds, so cultured pearls account for the vast majority of pearl sales today. These cultured pearl birthstones come in a dazzling array of sizes, colors and shapes.

Moonstone is the best-known gem of the feldspar group of minerals. It is renowned for its adularescence, the light that appears to billow across a gemstone, giving it a special glow. The finest moonstones show a blue sheen against a colorless background. This June birthstone has been associated with both the Roman and Greek lunar deities. Hindu mythology claims that it is made of solidified moonbeams. Moonstone is often associated with love, passion and fertility; it is believed to bring great luck.

Alexandrite is the rare variety of the mineral chrysoberyl that changes color in different lighting. Most prized are those alexandrite birthstones that show a vivid green to bluish green in daylight or fluorescent light, and an intense red to purplish red in incandescent light. Major alexandrite deposits were first discovered in 1830 in Russia's Ural Mountains. The gem was named after the young Alexander II (1818–1881), heir apparent to the throne. Alexandrite caught the country's attention because its red and green colors mirrored the national military colors of imperial Russia.

Excerpts from GIA web site: [www.gia.edu/birthstones/june-birthstones](http://www.gia.edu/birthstones/june-birthstones)



## *Birthdays*

*Sarah*



## *Anniversaries*

*None this month!*

### SHOW NEWS

There has been some progress in the planning for our show.

I have a count on the tables needed by size. This allows for lay-out of the tables for the quantity a vendor wants/needs.

Many of the vendors we have had in the past shows were contacted. Responses back regarding participation in this show were received with resounding enthusiasm. IF we do not have any further participants we will still have enough for a small show.

What will be needed for future planning will be the lay-out of the vendors in the Fellowship Hall. One of the requirements will be how many Display Cases will be needed. Also, the craft table, FRA and the "Guess How Many Are In The Jar" game.

Raffle tickets need to be printed and members need to be getting prizes ready for that. IF we get prizes early pictures can be taken and help sales early on.

I know October seems a long way off, but, there is much to be done. And the more positive information we have the easier it is for publicity to tout. Customers are our goal and selling Raffle tickets to them.

Virginia  
Asst. Show Chair

### .AFMS HISTORIAN

## An American First, Rockhounding & Fossil Collecting In a National Monument

by Jennifer Haley

Rockhounding and fossil collecting, as you know, is not allowed in the United States national monuments. However, when the BLM initial planning process began for the Mojave Trails National Monument in California, Rockhounds got involved. Rockhounds were very aware this was their one and only chance to possibly keep their collecting sites accessible within the new monument.

Rockhounds showed up, got involved and stayed involved during the initial planning process. Rockhounds learned how to submit public comments in the articulate way BLM management needed them presented, so the comments could be included in the official planning. Rockhounds submitted more public comments than any other organization or category of individuals involved in the planning process.

This was and is, amazing feedback for all Rockhounds. Many thought their aspirations too high a hill to even try to climb. Many thought the environmental groups already had the BLM planning “in the bag,” given the amount of lobbying money and attorneys they have at their use. Others leaned on their hope, hoping they could still collect in one of their favorite collecting areas for more than 100 years. Rockhounds realizing last chances can be huge opportunities for success, worked together with American Lands Access, their societies, federation, the AFMS and the BLM. Rockhounds realized entitlement wouldn't get them anywhere, but doing good work and working together would.

What's up next? Although rockhounding and fossil collecting is currently allowed in the Mojave Trails National Monument, the next phase of planning the monument is coming up this year. Rockhounds will be showing up, getting involved and staying involved again.

History is alive, always adding to its growth rings, as the future becomes our present and then our past. It will be up to Rockhounds to decide what our future will be. What Rockhounds have accomplished so far in the planning of the Mojave Trails National Monument, is monumental. If Rockhounds succeed in their efforts, and create rockhounding being approved in the final phase of the monument, it will be a major breakthrough for Recreational Rockhounding's future.

For more information about the monument:

Watch the [Rockhounding in the Mojave Trails National Monument](#) video.

[Mojave Trails National Monument | Bureau of Land Management \(blm.gov\)](#)

Additional information on the [Marble Mountains trilobite fossils](#).

## *WHRC Society Meeting Minutes*

**Time:** 7:19pm

**Location:** First United Methodist Church

**Date:** May 21, 2022

**Call to Order:** Sagi

**Correction or Approval of Minutes:** No Corrections

**Old Business:** Thalia needs a digital copy of the by-laws. A copy needs to go to the members.

**Report of Treasurer - Barbara:** We are good right now.

**Auditor - Virginia:** The books are in fine order.

**Bulletin/Publisher – Thalia/John:** Send in articles by the 25<sup>th</sup>

**Classes/Workshops Thalia:** Good class all finished the bracelets! Shanna and Thalia made matching pendant, Debbie made earrings. The June Class is a sun-catcher. Details to follow in bulletin

**Corporate Administrator - Debbie:** All taxes/filings up to date.

**Courtesy/Hospitality - Lillian:** Up to date.

**Display/Education/Community Outreach - Thalia:** Bradbury's will set up case at Culver City Show in July. Thalia will contact library for display before our show. We did not show our display at the CFMS show in Lancaster, issues with sizing, liners, and risers.

**Federation Director:** We are in need of a volunteer Federation Director. Maureen did CFMS show in May-will get a report in the bulletin, but mentioned how important to keep up tax filings as is hard to get re-instated.

**Field Trips:** Paty suggested Culver City show on July 16<sup>th</sup> as a field trip, contact Paty for more info

**FRA - Thalia:** We are not meeting at the moment.

**Historian - Gene:** Nothing to report.

**Insurance - Debbie:** The Hartford bill just arrived will mail check this week.

**Librarian - Shanna:** No new donations, we have books to check-out.

**Membership - Virginia:** Roster corrections handed out, no new members

**Programs:** Tonight: Silent Auction June an in-person program on tumbling by Debbie and Thalia.

**Show Chairman - Sagi/Virginia:** Many positions still need to be filled contact Virginia, Still working out the details. Will need both hourly (around \$5.00+) and raffle prizes (should be \$20-\$25) in value, items for the country store and gem jar guess items. Looks like will have a consignment table those wishing to sell please contact Virginia. Publicity for show: suggested Mining Journal, rock & gem, CFMS bulletin. Would like to get pictures of prizes for raffle on website as they come in.

**Ways and Means:** Silent Auction/ no raffle tonight. Tonight noticed that trailer lite has been stolen, John to look for a replacement as cannot drive trailer without it. Will need volunteer to install.

**Webmaster - John:** Everything is good and up to date

**New Business:** Paty has two DVDs for possible programs for the future, Shanna suggested giving to her early to view, at this time due to internet we cannot do an in person and zoom meeting. Some commented did not want to drive to see a DVD.

**Meeting adjourned:** 7:50 followed by silent auction

**Debbie Hirlinger**

**Secretary, Pro-tem**

## WHRC Business Meeting Minutes



**Time:** 7:03 P.M.

**Location:** Zoom

**Date:** May 7, 2022

**Call to Order:** Sagi

**Quorum:** Yes

**Correction or Approval of Minutes:** No corrections to minutes. They are approved per Debbie.

**Old Business:** Debbie sent an email regarding the BLM meeting discussing the Mohave Monument. Debbie attended the meeting and they didn't answer any specific questions. About 30-40 people on the zoom call are rockhounds.

**Report of Treasurer - Barbara:** We are in the black. The church is reducing the rent by \$ 90 since we aren't using the kitchen for the meeting. Sagi had a conversation with Mary about the kitchen.

**Auditor - Virginia:** Not present.

**Bulletin/Publisher - John:** Nothing new to report.

**Classes/Workshops Thalia:** May – Finish the Bead Bracelet. June and July classes are a Sun catcher w/ Ming Tree. Please contact Thalia for more information and to sign up.

**Corporate Administrator - Debbie:** Everything is up-to-date.

**Courtesy/Hospitality - Lillian:** Cards were sent out and are up – to – date.

**Display/Education/Community Outreach - Thalia:** We are not showing the club showcase at the CFMS show.

The showcase we were borrowing had a different configuration then the liners we had. Steve offered for the club to display at the Culver City Fiesta of Gems Show on July 16-17<sup>th</sup> 2022 at the Veterans Auditorium, located at 4117 Overland Ave. Culver City, CA.

**Federation Director:** The 2022 CFMS Show and Convention is scheduled for May 6th, 7th & 8th, 2022 at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds. The address is: 2551 W Avenue H, Lancaster, CA.

93536. <https://cfmsinc.org/shows-2/>

**Field Trips:** July 16<sup>th</sup> – Fiesta of Gems with the Culver City Rock & Mineral Club. Veteran's Memorial Auditorium 4117 Overland Ave Culver City, CA 90230.

**FRA - Thalia:** We aren't meeting at the moment.

**Historian - Gene:** Nothing to report.

**Insurance - Debbie:** Everything is current.

**Librarian - Shanna:** Nothing to report.

**New Business:** Doreen and Sagi are moving to Murrieta. We are keeping the status quo for now.

**Membership - Virginia:** Not present.

**Programs:** The Program will start at 7pm. In-person meeting Silent Auction scheduled May 21<sup>st</sup>. The program for June 18<sup>th</sup> is pending: Rock Tumbling / Carving on Rock.

**Show Chairman - Sagi/Virginia:** Nothing to report.

**Ways and Means:** Silent Auction scheduled for an outdoor meeting on May 21st.

**Webmaster - John:** Everything is good.

**Patricia Mejorado**

**Secretary, Board of Directors**



## Woodland Hills Rock Chippers, Incorporated



Our organization, a non-profit corporation, was formed for educational and instructive purposes: to foster collection and study of minerals, to disseminate knowledge about them, to sponsor field trips to find them, to encourage the use of them in lapidary and faceting studies, etc. And to have one whale of a good time doing those things with all of our friends.

Regular meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Social time from 6:30 p.m.

Field trips are at various times throughout the month. Guests are always welcome to attend.

Membership is open to interested applicants after they have attended at least 2 Society meetings. Annual dues are due in November for the following year. Membership fees are currently \$27.50 for one adult, \$17.50 for a second adult at the same address, juniors (ages 10-18) and pebble pups (ages 4-9) \$5 each. New members pay an additional \$15 initiation fee per person. Late joining new members may have lower dues as they are prorated after mid-year.

### Elected Officers/Directors

President	Sagi Salomon	Director At Large	Gene Berwager
Treasurer	Barbara Bradbury	Director At Large	Lillian Berwager
Secretary	Paty Mejorado	Director At Large	Larry Bradbury
Corp. Adm.	Debbie Hirlinger	Director At Large	John O'Brien
		Director At Large	Shanna O'Brien

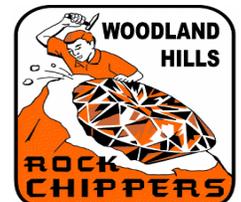
### Chairpersons and Appointed Positions

Auditor.....Virginia Rotramel  
 Bulletin Editor .....John O'Brien  
 Classes.....Thalia Goldsworthy  
 Courtesy/Hospitality...Lillian Berwager  
 Custodian.....Open  
 Federation Director.....Gary Levitt  
 Alternate Fed Director..Maureen Levitt  
 Field Trips.....Committee  
 FRA.....Thalia Goldsworthy  
 Historian.....Gene Berwager  
 Librarian.....Shanna O'Brien

Membership .....Virginia Rotramel  
 Outreach.....Thalia Goldsworthy  
 Parliamentarian.....Open  
 Programs .....Thalia Goldsworthy  
 Publicity.....Open  
 Shop ..... Pat Keene. Anita Niles  
 Club Show Chair.....Sagi Salmon  
 Asst.Show Chair.....Virginia Rotramel  
 Ways and Means..... Virginia Rotramel  
 Webmaster.....John O'Brien



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**Society Meeting Program  
At the Church  
June 18th  
6:30 Social & 7:00 Program  
Rock Tumbling**



Address exchange Bulletins to: Editor at above address

*Woodland Hills Rock Chippers, Inc.*  
MEMBER OF CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES  
P.O. BOX 205, Woodland Hills, CA 91365